

4/11/70

Dear Ed,

Can we dispense with the formalities?

Many thanks for your note of the 8th, from the postmark. By air, it reached me today!

I was aware of Marks' "work". In the past it has been the most irresponsible literary kleptomania (I've no copy of either book but was able to borrow the first)). In this case he even stole the title, COUP D'ETAT. It has been months since I wrote Art Kunkin, who has been silent but apparently continues to plug the whore, the only kind of expert Kunkin recognizes as a real expert.

I regret having to tell you that the Skolnick suit is a very dangerous fake, so dangerous I cannot but wonder what purpose he serves and for whom. It is an ugly blend of theft, the wildest imaginings, the most permeating error and the grossest ignorance of the most elemental fact. These things I knew as soon as I heard of it and was immediately able to establish that he got the documents from the young men I had checked a few things for me, on his promise to call me and, presumably, get my permission. He did neither. So the only thing in the whole awful mess is stolen, used out of context, and mixed with the rotten crap you even saw. You simply cannot begin to imagine how thoroughly bad this is.

Therefore, it did get attention!

It is possible we may be able to frustrate the terrible evil of the great national publicity this suit getting tossed out of court, which is inevitable, would do. Can't you imagine the headlines, "No Suppression".

Because I see neither the NY papers nor the Free Press (ugh!), I'd appreciate it if you could watch them for me on this.

If I haven't told you, I have read the book you were kind enough to send, completing all except Bosch. All are excellent, even the very bad ones, for it is good to know the evil these people are up to.

Many thanks,

Sincerely,